In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 67, as shown below. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented claims in a continuing or future application.

1. (Previously Presented): A computer-implemented method comprising:

maintaining digital records of software licenses, the digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses; and

upgrading or downgrading the software version for multiple software licenses in a batch mode, an indication of the upgrade or downgrade being stored in the digital record wherein the multiple software licenses are individually selectable;

wherein the upgrading or downgrading of the software licenses includes displaying a page that shows current licenses and receiving an indication of what current licenses are selected to upgrade or downgrade, as well as an indication to upgrade or downgrade the selected licenses in the batch mode, the upgrading and downgrading involves providing new license keys for the upgrade/downgrade version, as well as disabling the license keys for the old versions;

wherein the page is a license search result page that displays current licenses found as a result of a search;

wherein the license search result page allows for the selection of a group of more than one of the displayed current licenses for upgrading or downgrading in the batch mode, the selection of the group determining which licenses are upgraded or downgraded; and

wherein the upgrading or downgrading is done using at least one processor.

2. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

3. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

4. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 3, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

5. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

6. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

7. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

8. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

9. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the license version is downgraded.

10. (Previously Presented): A license management system comprising:

a memory adapted to maintain digital records of a software licenses, the digital record indicating rights associated with software licenses; and

a processor adapted to allow the upgrading or downgrading the software version for multiple software licenses in a batch mode, an indication of the upgrade or downgrade being stored in the digital record such that the digital record can be used to determine whether a software version is authorized by a software license wherein the multiple software licenses are individually selectable;

wherein the processor is adapted to provide a license search result page that displays current licenses found as a result of a search; wherein the license search result page shows current licenses and is used to obtain an indication of what current licenses are selected to upgrade or downgrade, as well as an indication to upgrade or downgrade the selected licenses in the batch mode, the upgrading and downgrading involves providing new license keys for the upgrade/downgrade version, as well as disabling the license keys for the old versions;

wherein the license search result page allows for the selection of a group of more than one of the displayed current licenses for upgrading or downgrading in the batch mode, the selection of the group determining which licenses are upgraded or downgraded; and

wherein the processor receives instructions for the selection.

11. (Original): The license management system of claim 10, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

12. (Original): The license management system of claim 10, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

13. (Original): The license management system of claim 12, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

14. (Original): The license management system of claim 10, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

15. (Original): The license management system of claim 10, wherein digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

16. (Original): The license management system of claim 10, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

17. (Original): The license management system of claim 10, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

18. (Original): The license management system of claim 10, wherein the license version is downgraded.

19. (Withdrawn): A method comprising:

maintaining digital records of software licenses, the digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses;

under the control of a software user, upgrading or downgrading the software version for a software license, the upgrade or downgrade selected from a list of possible upgrades or downgrades, the list including an intermediate version wherein the user can select an upgrade or downgrade that skips the intermediate version.

20. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 19, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

21. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 19, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

22. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 21, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

23. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 19, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

24. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 19, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

25. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 19, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

26. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 19, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

27. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 19, wherein the license version is downgraded.

28. (Withdrawn):   The method of claim 19, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

29. (Withdrawn):   A license management system comprising:

    a memory adapted to maintain digital records of a software licenses, the digital record indicating rights associated with a software licenses; and

    a processor adapted to allow the upgrading or downgrading the software version for a software license, the upgrade or downgrade selected from a list of possible upgrades or downgrades, the list including an intermediate version wherein the user can select an upgrade or downgrade that skips the intermediate version.

30. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 29, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

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31. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

32. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

33. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

34. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

35. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

36. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

37. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein the license version is downgraded.

38. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 29, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

39. (Withdrawn): A method comprising:

   under the control of a software user, selecting a software license;

   automatically, obtaining a list of appropriate product versions for upgrade or downgrade of the software license;

   providing to the software user the list of appropriate product versions;

   under the control of the software user, selecting one of the appropriate product versions for upgrading or downgrading the software version ; and

   automatically storing an indication of the upgrade or downgrade in a digital record.

40. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the list is obtained from another source.

41. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 40, wherein the list is obtained from a license generation system.

42. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 40, wherein the list is transferred as an XML file.

43. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the list is provided to the software user as a pull down list.

44. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

45. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

46. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 45, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

47. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

48. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

49. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

50. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

51. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein the license version is downgraded.

52. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

53. (Withdrawn): A license management system comprising:

a memory adapted to maintain a digital record of a software license; and

a processor adapted to obtain a list of appropriate product versions for upgrade or downgrade of the software license and to provide to a software user the list of appropriate product versions, in response to the user selection of one of the appropriate product versions, the processor is adapted to store an indication of the upgrade or downgrade in the digital record.

54. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the list is obtained from another source.

55. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 54, wherein the list is obtained from a license generation system.

56. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the list is transferred as an XML file.

57. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the list is provided to the software user as a pull down list

58. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

59. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

60. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 59, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

61. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

62. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

63. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

64. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

65. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein the license version is downgraded.

66. (Withdrawn): The license management system of claim 53, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

67. (Currently Amended): A computer-implemented method comprising:

maintaining digital records of a software license, the digital records indicating rights associated with software license;

[[,]] downgrading the software version for the software license, an indication of the downgrade being stored in the digital record;

wherein the downgrading of the software license includes providing a page of current licenses and receiving an indication of what current license is selected for downgrading, as well as an indication to downgrade the selected license, the downgrading involves producing a new license key for the downgraded version, as well as disabling the license key for the old version;

wherein the page is a license search result page that displays current licenses found as a result of a search

wherein the license search result page allows for the selection of a group of more than one of the displayed current licenses for upgrading or downgrading in the batch mode, the selection of the group determining which licenses are upgraded or downgraded; and

wherein the downgrade is done using at least one processor.

68. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein the downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

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69. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

70. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 69, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

71. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

72. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

73. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

74. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

75. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein the license version can also be upgraded.

76. (Previously Presented): The computer-implemented method of claim 67, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

77. (Withdrawn): A license management system comprising:

a memory adapted to maintain a digital record of a software license, the digital record indicating rights associated with a software license; and

a processor adapted to allow the downgrading the software version for the software license under the control of a software user, an indication of the downgrade being stored in the digital record such that the digital record can be used to determine whether a software version is authorized by a software license.

78. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

79. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

80. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 79, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

81. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

82. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

83. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

84. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

85. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein the license version can also be upgraded.

86. (Withdrawn):   The license management system of claim 77, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

87. (Withdrawn):   A computer readable media comprising software to instruct a computer to do the steps of:

maintaining digital records of software licenses, the digital records indicating rights associated with software licenses;

under the control of a software user, upgrading or downgrading the software version for multiple software licenses in a batch mode, an indication of the upgrade or downgrade being

stored in the digital record wherein the multiple software licenses are individually selectable by the software user.

88. (Withdrawn):   The computer readable media of claim 87, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

89. (Withdrawn):   The computer readable media of claim 87, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

90. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 89, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

91. (Withdrawn):   The computer readable media of claim 89, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

92. (Withdrawn):   The computer readable media of claim 89, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

93. (Withdrawn):   The computer readable media of claim 89, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

94. (Withdrawn):   The computer readable media of claim 89, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

95. (Withdrawn):   The computer readable media of claim 89, wherein the license version is downgraded.

96. (Withdrawn): A computer readable media comprising software to instruct a computer to do the steps of:

      maintaining digital records of software licenses, the digital records indicating rights associated with a software licenses;

      under the control of a software user, upgrading or downgrading the software version for a software license, the upgrade or downgrade selected from a list of possible upgrades or

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downgrades, the list including an intermediate version wherein the user can select an upgrade or downgrade that skips the intermediate version.

97. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

98. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

99. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 98, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

100. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

101. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

102. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

103. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

104. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein the license version is downgraded.

105. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 96, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

106. (Withdrawn): A computer readable media comprising software to instruct a computer to do the steps of:
        under the control of a software user, selecting a software license;

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automatically, obtaining a list of appropriate product versions for upgrade or downgrade of the software license;

providing to the software user the list of appropriate product versions;

under the control of the software user, selecting one of the appropriate product versions for upgrading or downgrading the software version ; and

automatically, storing an indication of the upgrade or downgrade in a digital record.

107. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein the list is obtained from another source.

108. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 107, wherein the list is obtained from a license generation system.

109. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 107, wherein the list is transferred as an XML file.

110. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein the list is provided to the software user as a pull down list

111. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein the upgrading or downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

112. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

113. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 112, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

114. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

115. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

116. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

117. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

118. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein the license version is downgraded.

119. (Withdrawn): The computer readable media of claim 106, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

120. (Previously Presented): A computer readable media containing instructions to instruct a computer to do the steps of:

maintaining digital records of a software license, the digital records indicating rights associated with software license;

downgrading the software version for the software license, an indication of the downgrade being stored in the digital record;

wherein the downgrading of the software license includes providing a page of current licenses and receiving an indication of what current license is selected for downgrading, as well as an indication to downgrade the selected license, the downgrading involves producing a new license key for the downgraded version, as well as disabling the license key for the old version;

wherein the page is a license search result page that displays current licenses found as a result of a search;

wherein the license search result page allows for the selection of a group of more than one of the displayed current licenses for upgrading or downgrading in the batch mode, the selection of the group determining which licenses are upgraded or downgraded; and

wherein the downgrade is done using at least one processor.

121. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein the downgrading of rights is associated with the license key.

122. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein the digital record is accessed using a web application.

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123. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein the web application uses role-based security.

124. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein digital records contain configuration information for the computer authorized to run the software.

125. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein the digital records can be searched to find a specific digital record.

126. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein the rights are associated with a license key.

127. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein configuration information for the computers running the software is stored in the digital record.

128. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein the license version can also be upgraded.

129. (Previously Presented): The computer readable media of claim 120, wherein upgrading or downgrading of the version is done for multiple software licenses in a batch mode.

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